ECO 5427 : Econometric Analysis 2
Syllabus

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Office Hours: Monday 1:40-2:40pm

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Office Hours: via Zoom by appointment on Calendly

Course Time, Meetings, and Modality:

M,W | Period 5 - 6 (11:45 AM - 1:40 AM) Room MAT 114
This is a project and presentation based class. In-person meeting lectures will be fully in-person. Lectures will not be streamed nor recorded. All presentations will take place in person, during our scheduled class times.

Course Description and Purpose:

This course is built on the ECO 5426 Econometric Analysis I. Following an introduction to research design for analyzing data in economics, in this course we will have a hands-on experience with various causal inference methods with individual projects with a focus on issues in empirical microeconomics and public policy analysis. The semester long-project will be a either an original study or a (partial) replication and critical analysis of recent study from major economics journal.

The goal of the course is twofold: To teach students how to conduct empirical analysis in order to answer questions concerning the identification of causal effects and to provide them with the tools to critique empirical studies. With this goal in mind, the main focus will be on producing their own data analysis or replicating an existing published paper. The projects will be also presented in class in-person. Every student will be providing a written critical review for each project presentation. By the end of the course, students will have a grasp of various types of research design and experience of data gathering, cleaning, reading Stata code and producing tables and graphs describing the data. They will also gain experience in presenting the results of their data analysis to an audience as well as gaining the ability to evaluate papers and providing constructive feedback.

Course Material:

First two weeks of classes will help you choose the project you will work on. These will include some papers suggestions for replications and resources for where to find papers to replicate. For those who would like to pursue their own data analysis, some data sources and ideas will be provided as well. These resources will be discussed in-person during the first week of classes and the material discussed will be available on Canvas.

Software: Stata

The applied component to this course requires the use of Stata. Knowledge of Stata is a prerequisite. Students are required to use Stata software on their data anlaysis or replication project. Unfortunately, Stata is not an open source software. You can access Stata through UF Apps (https://info.apps.ufl.edu/) from any place. If you have a strong preference to use R, please discuss this with the instructor during the first week of classes.

Tentative Course Outline:

Daily schedule is available on the course's CANVAS page including the lecture and reading material for each lecture. First two weeks of classes, we will meet in the regular classroom at class meeting times. Between Jan 22-Feb 7 and Feb 26-March 6, we will NOT meet for a class meeting. Instead, we will have in-person individual meetings during class times for those who would like to discuss their ideas, progress, and problems they are facing. These meetings will take place in the classroom where our class meetings usually take place. I will be available during those times to provide individualized help. There will be an option to book a 15-mins slot. Walk-ins are also fine if not fully booked.

Week 1	CLASS MEETINGS: Introduction of Syllabus
Week 2	CLASS MEETINGS: Guidance/resources
Week 3	NO CLASS MEETINGS: Individual meetings for projects
Week 4	NO CLASS MEETINGS: Individual meetings for projects
Week 5	NO CLASS MEETINGS: Individual meetings for projects
Week 6	Presentations of Progress Reports (Attendance is required)
Week 7	Presentations of Progress Reports (Attendance is required)
Week 8	NO CLASS MEETINGS: Individual meetings for projects
Week 9	NO CLASS MEETINGS: Individual meetings for projects
Week 10	**SPRING BREAK**
Week 11	NO CLASS MEETINGS: Individual meetings for projects
Week 12	Presentations of Replication Projects (Attendance is required)
Week 13	Presentations of Replication Projects (Attendance is required)
Week 14	Presentations of Replication Projects (Attendance is required)
Week 15	Presentations of Replication Projects (Attendance is required)
Week 16	Presentations of Replication Projects (Attendance is required)

Projects:

The project requires conducting data analysis on a causal inference question and writing up a report and presentation of these findings to the class.In order to make the project more flexible, you are free to choose one of the following options:

1. Presentation with replication and critical analysis of recent study from a major economics journal
2. Presentation of your own analysis (collecting your own data and work on the question of your choice and conduct data analysis)

If you choose the replication option, you will replicate at least one descriptive (summary) statistics table, and two other tables with main results and robustness checks or other specifications of the paper you select. If you run your own analysis, you will be producing similar number of tables/graphs answering the question you picked.

In either options, you will be required to write a report for your replication including these tables/graphs from your replication or your own analysis. First, you will introduce the research question of the paper or your own analysis, briefly explaining why this is an interesting question along with a short literature review. Then you will proceed to the results you are replicating/presenting which should be at least one descriptive table or graph and an another table with the main results of the paper. Last but not least, you will write the conclusion of the paper. In the concluding remarks, you will discuss the potential problems of the identification strategy and possible improvements for further research. This will be the a very important part of the report especially for replication projects.

In addition to this report, you will prepare a presentation. The presentation is going to be timed (20 minutes for each presentation). As for grading, it will be graded based on quality, correctness, and presentation performance and not based on simply completion. The presentation's clarity, time use, organization of slides will be also an important part of the grade.

Presentations will be followed by questions/discussion. Audience will have the opportunity to ask questions and give comments and by doing so they will earn extra credit points. Non-presenters are expected to read the presented paper or research report and submit an evaluation of the paper and the presentation which will be separately graded. **This implies that you will miss an assignment if you have an unexcused absence on the day of presentations of your classmates.**

Feb 12 at 11am, all students will submit a progress report and the following two weeks (Feb 12-21) everybody will present their progress in person. You will provide the title of the project, a short description of the main research question along with at least one table (replication or your own analysis). These presentations will be 5-7mins short presentations. Slides are required.

Presentations will take place during class times between Mar 25-Apr 24. Further information will be available on Canvas for the individual presentation dates. Each student will be randomly assigned to a presentation slot between those dates. Regardless of date of your presentation, everyone will submit the reports, code, and their slides on the same date (the first day of presentations). This submission deadline is **March 25 at 11am**. This way everyone will have an equal amount of time to work on their projects.

For submissions you will submit separate Stata do files and output in addition to your reports and slides. Attach all of your work on additional sheets if necessary. All submissions should be typed and submitted work should be organized and well-structured as if they are professional business reports.

Failing to turn in the assignments before the deadlines results in a grade of 0. No Incompletes, No Grade Changes, No Extensions, and No Substitute Work. Software and/or computer problems are no excused. You are responsible of making sure your software works and you always back up your work in case the computer crashes.

You are responsible for verifying that any online assignment submission has properly been submitted through Canvas. As a best practice, after submitting any assignment, close your browser, reopen Canvas, and check that your assignment properly appears. As an additional best practice, never submit an assignment through the Canvas mobile app.

All submission deadlines will be just as firm as exams in a course. The same applies for atten-

dance to all of the in-person presentations. That is, I will require documentation for all excused absences, and that any issue for which documentation cannot be obtained should be directed to the Dean of Students Office without exception.

Important dates for submissions are as follows:

	Opening Date	Due Date
Progress Report, Slidesm and Code Submission	Jan 8	Feb 12 at 11am
Progress Report Presentation	Feb 12-Feb 21	Randomly assigned
Slides, Final Report, Final Code Submission	Feb 21	March 25 at 11am
Final Presentation	Mar 25-Apr 24	Randomly assigned
Critique Reports for each presentation	Presentation date	within 48 hours

Assessments and Grades:

Final grades in this course will be based on the completeness and correctness of the progress reports, final reports, code, and in-presentation as well as the critique reports for each presentation. Detailed rubric for each of these assignments will be provided during the semester.

These dates in the schedule above are subject to change if anything unexpected comes up and finalized dates/times and location are going to be announced as soon as possible. Make-up assignments must be arranged BEFORE the due date/time and will only be offered for UF-related conflicts and religious holidays. Keep in mind that your academic obligations always take precedence over personal and social commitments.

Unexcused absences from presentations (including other students' presentation) results in a grade of 0 in the associated assignment grade (i.e. if you miss your own presentation your grade will be 0 for your presentation. If you miss a classmate's presentation, your grade for their critique report will be 0.

No Incompletes, No Grade Changes, No Extensions, and No Substitute Work for any of the missed assignment participation and/or submission. All deadlines will be firm. That is, I will require documentation for all excused absences (except for religious holidays), and that any issue for which documentation cannot be obtained should be directed to the Dean of Students Office without exception.

Grading Policy:

Progress report showing progress in the code and data analysis and final project material (code, slides and report) will be submitted on Canvas on the predetermined deadlines. Make-up assignments will be arranged only for absences that are explicitly covered by the UF Attendance Policy.

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Progress Report (including code + presentation)	20%
Code (Final)	15%
Slides for the Presentation	5%
Final Report	20%
Presentation (in-person)	10%
Presentation evaluations for others	30%
Total	100%

Grades will be rounded to the nearest percentage point and you will obtain your letter grade accordingly. Your final letter grade will be determined as follows. The grading policies are consistent with UF policies regarding grade determination. This information can be found at: `https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx` :

93–100	A
90–92	A-
87–89	B+
83–86	B
80–82	B-
77–79	C+
73–76	C
70–72	C-
67–69	D+
60–66	D
0–59	E

No Class/No Office Hour:

Jan 15 (Holiday), March 11 and March 13 (Spring Break).

Attendance Policy and Behavior

Attendance for all presentations are required. If you miss someone else's presentation, you will NOT be able to submit an evaluation for their presentation and you will receive 0 as your grade for this assignment unless you provide documentation for an excused absence as recommended by UF Attendance Policy.

Please notify me if you will be absent from class. Lateness, premature departure, or failure to respond to your name being called while present will only count as half of a day. You are also required to communicate any lateness and/or premature departure beforehand. Failure to communicate will result in absence. If you missed the attendance sheet or forgot to sign, this is your responsibility.

Because you will be expected to submit thoughtful evaluations of your classmates' projects and presentations, inattentiveness during these presentation will most likely result in a substantial reduction in course performance.

Course Resources and Hints for Success

You will be replicating papers which have provided a replication package including data, code, and detailed summaries. These replication packages often include help files. I encourage you to check these files. If you are working on your own analysis or replication of an existing paper, often the code will be the hardest part. I guarantee that something confusing will come up in the code. Web search and emailing/visiting me and/or the TA for help are you options. You are encouraged to attend instructor's individual meetings dedicated to helping these problems. TA's office hours will be also available to ask for help. Attendance in these meetings and office hours is highly correlated with success in the course. You will have multiple opportunities to get help while working on your replication, data analysis, and presentations. Make an attempt on whatever you are working on

before you bring questions to office hours; have a record (i.e. the data you work with, the code you are attempting, a screenshot of what you do, the error you get etc.) of the problem you are facing to discuss with the instructor or the TA.

Communication

I will communicate any relevant information for the lectures and assignments in class and/or via email and/or Canvas announcements. It is VERY important that you check your UF emails regularly.

General Comments on Wellness and Success

College is an exciting learning experience and a unique opportunity for personal growth. It can, however, also be a stressful and difficult transitionary period. If you are ever having general issues with your coursework in any course or trouble in your personal life, please seek help from myself or another faculty member. I also encourage you to utilize the FREE and ANONYMOUS services of the UF Counseling and Wellness Center.

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Academic Honesty

You are expected to abide by the University's rules for academic honesty. These are available for your review at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/academic.php. Cheating, plagiarism, and any other action that violates these rules will be prosecuted to the fullest extent. It should be noted that creating an excuse to take a make-up exam that cannot be verified and signing the attendance sheet on someone else's behalf constitute cheating under the University guidelines.

End-of-Term Course Evaluation

I encourage you to fill out the online course evaluation form that is available at http://evaluations.ufl.edu. I will provide class time – during which I will leave the room – for you to complete this online form at the end of the term. This will be announced in advance, and you will be encouraged to bring a wifi-enabled device (e.g., a laptop, tablet, or smartphone) to class that day.

I will pass out an alternative (separate from the official University of Florida form) course evaluation form at the end of the course. The official University of Florida form does not offer much valuable information for future improvements of this course. Please, help me and future students by offering honest and thorough information -- I greatly appreciate constructive criticism. I will not read these evaluations until all grades have been submitted.

Student Responsibility --be careful to read the syllabus for unique features of this course

Enrollment in this course constitutes acknowledgment of the following:

1. I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all of their academic work. I agree to adhere to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion from the University.

2. I will adhere to university copyright policies as found at http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/copyright/

3. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

4. Continued enrollment in this course is equivalent to acceptance of all stated responsibilities, policies, and due dates. If there is anything that is unclear, talk to me immediately. Waiting until the end of the term often results in less favorable outcomes.

5. Students are expected to attend regularly and participate actively in this course. It is assumed that you have read the assigned material before attending class and are prepared to answer questions based on the readings.